

RAW FILE
CALIFORNIA PARKS
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>> So good morning, just like old times, except the budget is balanced now. In a moment, I will be swearing in the new Parks Director. I just want to take a moment to make a brief comment. Because he is a Californian, he has incredible management experience, it's not widely understood that when he was in the service he supervised 118 environmental ecologists, scientists, people who protected sacred sites, he has been a leader in alternate energy, he supervised a civilian police force that was unionized, so he has had an incredible experience and he even had his home saved by Cal Fire. He is somebody that brings a wealth of experience and will help us move forward in the Parks Department and we are very excited that he is here. So if you would step forward and please raise your right hand and say, I state your name.

>> I Anthony L. Jackson.

>> Do solemnly swear.

>> Do solemnly swear.

>> That I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California.

>> That I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of California.

>> Against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

>> Against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

>> That I will bear true faith and allegiance.

>> That I will bear true faith and allegiance.

>> To the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of California.

>> To the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of California.

>> That I take this obligation freely.

>> That I take this obligation freely.

>> Without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

>> Without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion.

>> And with that I well willfully and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

>> And with that I well willfully and faithfully discharge the duties upon which I am about to enter.

>> Congratulations.

(Applause.)

>> And actually just for the record I am going to have you sign to make it official--

(Laughter).

>> -- right there.

>> Right there, in blue ink, too.

>> Perfect. I know you have a few words to say.

>> A few words. Well, you know, coming out of retirement as a two star general in the Marine Corps, I look around here and there are more stars here than I am used to seeing. I really appreciate all of you coming here and taking an interest in this. Certainly I have a real interest in the California state parks, and it's only the Secretary's call which pulled me out of retirement. I had been offered great opportunities, other places also within the state, but I love the California state parks. And I bought an RV in January as a retirement gift to myself and my wife. You spend a lot of time away from home over a 36 year career in the Marine Corps. We figured we would mark every state and natural park in the state of California in it, and since January, we have put nearly 10,000 miles on it. So I was dedicated to that before I ever realized that I would be in this position today. And the natural resources of the state of California, the beauty, ecological concerns and the way that we are a state which leads is something that I have great pride in. I served around the world and I can see where people can create natural disasters out of things where they violate the natural beauty out of things. So I am really glad that I get to be able to step out in the forefront and bring the parks forward. I have to thank Janelle Beland for all that she has done. In trying to make this transition we have been sort of communication a bit. Then yesterday she gave me the fire hose. So I am really looking forward to serving the people of California with the same dedication that I put in over 36 years of being Marine. I grew my hair and got side burns and grew a mustache to settle people down a bit. I want to operate the Department with absolute integrity, and that will be a watch word of mine. I want to win the trust of the people of the state of California.

I want to win the trust of each employee within the Department and the Governor's office and the Secretary's office. I want people to know that every nickel and every dime will be honestly handled within the Department. I am kind of stunned I am in this position, but I am also exhilarated. So I have no other words. My son, my Sacramento State son is here, and is going to graduate in December.

(Laughter).

>> So he is a family rep here today. And anyway, I look forward to all of your support. All of your support. Thank you very much.

>> Thank you.